

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment claims 2-6, 8-18, and 21-23 will be pending of which claims 2, 8, 9, 21, and 22 are now independent.

Claims 1, 7, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuroda et al. (US Patent No. 6,640,433 B1) in view of McLean II et al. (US Patent No. 5,747,120) in view of Daniels et al (US Patent No. 6,185,992 B1). The Examiner has objected to claims 2-6, 8-18, and 21-23 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In order to expedite issuance of the allowable subject matter, Applicant has cancelled the rejected claims and reserves the right to continue prosecution of the cancelled claims. Additionally, Applicant has placed claims 2, 8, 9, 21, and 22 in independent form while maintaining the scope of the claimed subject matter as originally presented. Thus, Applicant requests withdrawal of Examiner's objection to claims 2-6, 8-18, and 21-23 and full allowance of same.

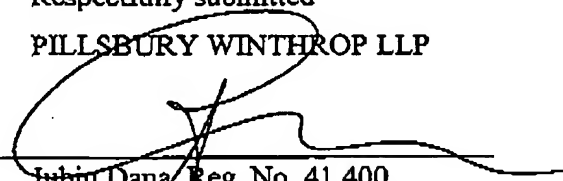
Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, and in view of the foregoing, the claims are believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, he or she is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted

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